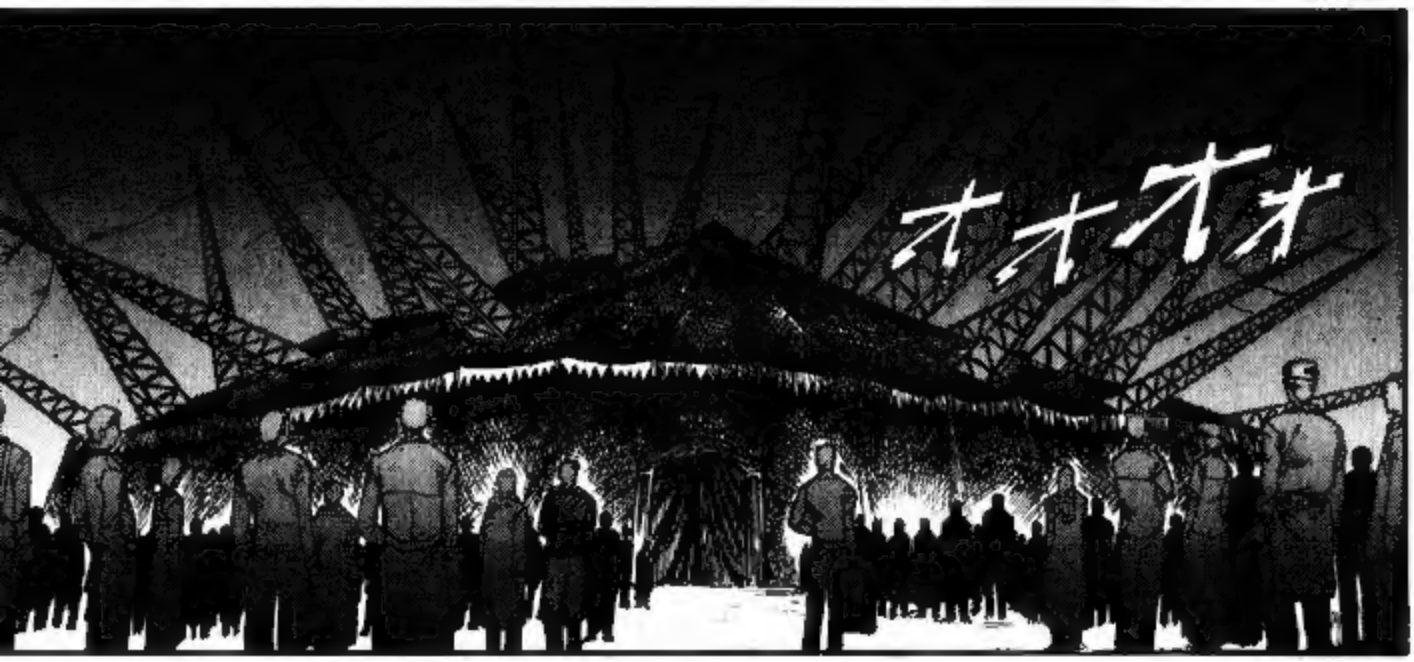
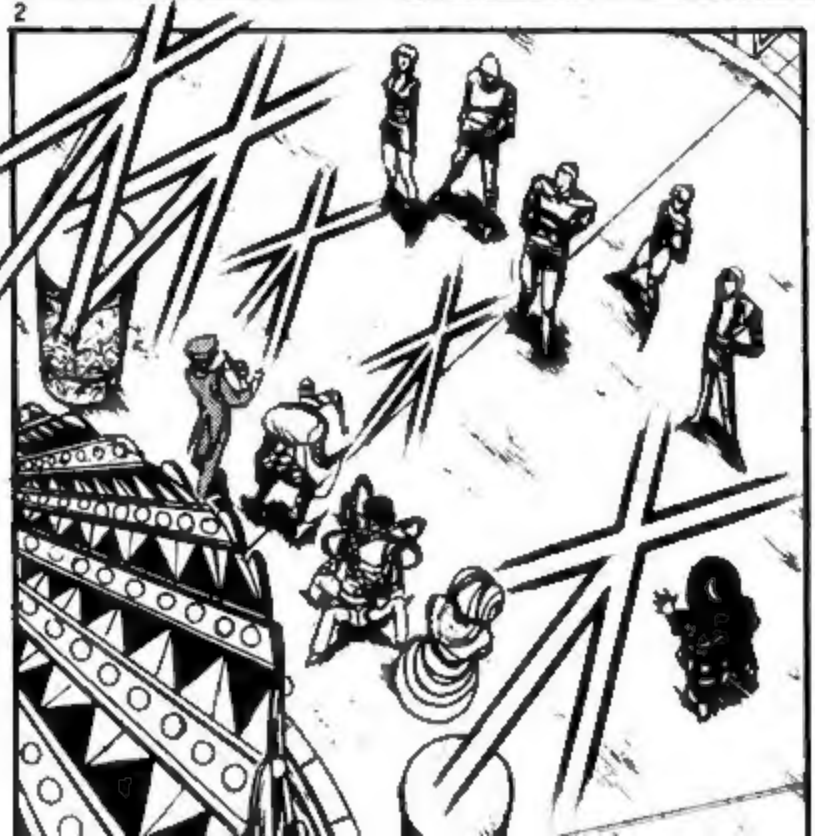


Act 7
First Match

TWENTY OF US AUTO-MATA ...
AND TWENTY PEOPLE CHOSEN FROM THE SHIROGANE ...
ARE GOING TO FIGHT FIVE-ON-FIVE TO SEE WHICH SIDE COMES OUT WITH THE MOST SURVIVORS.

2



NOW, LET THE SHOW BEGIN!

I... WONDER WHAT'LL HAPPEN ...
THE SHIROGANE-O ARE SUPER-HUMANS WITH REMODELED BODIES... BUT THEIR OPPONENTS LOOK PRETTY STRONG TOO...
... YEAH.
DAMN IT ALL! I CAN'T STOMACH THOSE SHIROGANE-O BASTARDS BEING THE FIRST UP!!
3
MADAME, WHY?! WHY WASN'T I ALLOWED TO BE PART OF THE GROUP?!
MADAME, DO YOU NOT AGREE THAT WE NORMAL SHIROGANE SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO FIGHT AS WELL?
WITH THE SITUATION AS IT IS, THE SHIROGANE-O WILL END UP DESTROYING THE AUTO-MATA ALL ON THEIR OWN.
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU MEAN IT DOESN'T MATTER ?!
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO BEATS THEM.
WHAT ?!
DOESN'T MATTER EITHER WAY.

ANYONE WILL DO.
IF YOU CRUSH ITS HEAD ...
THE SNAKE WILL DIE ...

WHO MADE THOSE CHILDREN SUFFER LIKE THAT!
ALL THAT MATTERS IS GETTING RID OF THOSE DOLLS WHO SPREAD ZONAPHA SYNDROME ...

4

DO YOUR BEST TO WIN THIS GAME!

HEY, SHIRO-GANE-O!

Y-YOU ...!

KUKU... HEY, THE REGULAR SHIROGANE ARE SAYING SOMETHING.
WHAT DO YOU *THINK* WE PLAN TO DO, INFERIOR SPECIMEN?

HURRY AND GET US TO WHERE THE DOLL FRANCINE IS!

WELL, NOW ...
YOU MAY NOT FIND US SO EASY TO BREAK!

I, ZED, AM ABOUT TO DESTROY ALL OF THESE DOLLS.
JUST WATCH ME.
SHIROGANE-O FIGHTER 1: ZED GAINE

ALITOMATA FIGHTER 1: DIABOLO WILLY
MY SPINNING TOPS ARE PRETTY STRONG!

ALL OF THEM AT ONCE!
I CAN MANI-PULATE THEM AS I PLEASE ...
キュルル
AND THANKS TO THEIR STEEL BLADES ...
6
THEY BECOME TERRIFYING UFOS!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE... I'M ALSO A JUGGLER. ALTHOUGH I USE CLUBS, NOT TOPS.

HAH!
AND UNLIKE YOUR TOPS, THESE CLUBS HAVE ANOTHER USE.
HA HA! I CAN DO THAT TOOOO!

NO, NO, LET ME!
ZED, LET ME TAKE THE NEXT ONE.
HM PH.
NATU-RALLY.
HE DID IT!
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN ESCAPE MY HIGH-VOLTAGE HULA HOOPS?
HOOH... SO YOU BEAT ONE OF US.
BUT ...
パチ
パチ
NO WAY! THIS IS FUN. YOU THINK I'M GONNA GIVE IT UP TO SOMEONE ELSE?
6
SORRY, WEISZ.
ガァ
AUTOMATA FIGHTER 2: HULA HOOP WEISZ

WHAT FOR?!
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO SOCIALIZE.

ALL RIGHT! THEY MAY HAVE AWFUL PERSONALITIES, BUT THEY SURE GET THE JOB DONE!
YEAH! AT THIS RATE, WE REALLY MIGHT BE ABLE TO MEET WITH FRANCINE.
RIGHT, LUCILLE?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. MOST LIKELY SHE'S JUST GONE TO MEET WITH AN OLD FRIEND.
...! NOW THAT YOU MEN-TION IT...
HUH? WHERE'S LUCILLE?
DAMN, HE REALLY DID IT! HA HA HA!
ZED CER-TAINLY IS STRONG.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, MING-XIA?
LOOKS LIKE I WON AGAIN!
ALITOMATA FIGHTER 4: BUGLE HARLEY
ALITOMATA FIGHTER 3: SNAKE CHARMER

OKAY.
I WILL COME WITH YOU.
BE CARE-FUL...
I'M GOING TO GO LOOK FOR LUCILLE.
ACTING ON OUR OWN IN ENEMY TERRITORY SEEMS WAY TOO DANGER-OUS.

FOUR OF OUR COMRADES LOST ALREADY! HOWEVER, THERE IS ONE OPPONENT REMAINING...
OH, MY, WHAT A DREADFUL FATE HAS BEFALLEN US!
HOPE SHE'S OKAY ...
WHOOO WILL BE ABLE TO WIPE AWAY OUR SHAME ...?
WHOOO SHOULD WE SEND OUT AT A TIME LIKE THIS ...?
THE SHAME! OH, THE SHAME OF IT ALL ...!
IF OUR NEXT FIGHTER IS DESTROYED, THE AUTOMATA WILL HAVE LOST THE FIRST MATCH IN STRAIGHT SETS!
OLSEN!
11
OLSEN?
OL-SEN !!
WHOOO WILL BE ABLE TO GET THE SHIROGANE BLOODBATH UNDERWAY ...?

OH, THIS IS RICH... WHAT A BLUNDER ON YOUR PART! SEND OLSEN OUT, YOU SAY?
PFFHAHA ... AHAHA!
THERE'S NO ONE LEFT IN THE RING.
HURRY UP AND SEND THIS OLSEN OUT, THEN.
WRAAHろ、あ あ
WHAT ?!
LOOK, OVER THERE ...
WHY, HE'S BEEN THERE SINCE THE VERY BEGINNING.
あ あ
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
あ
カツ

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ガコン
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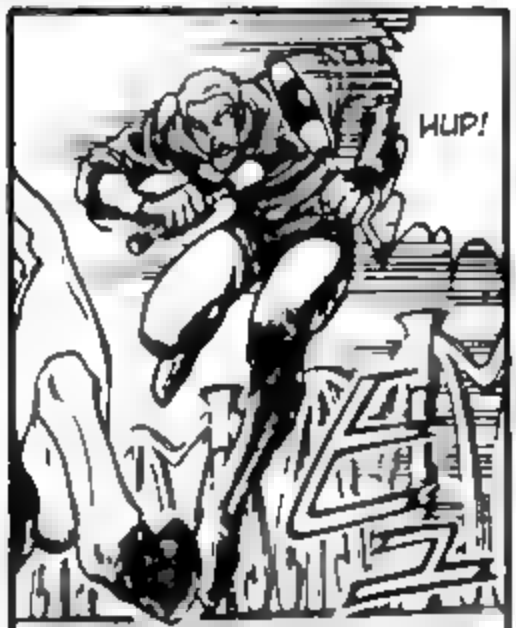
チンカラ
ガコン

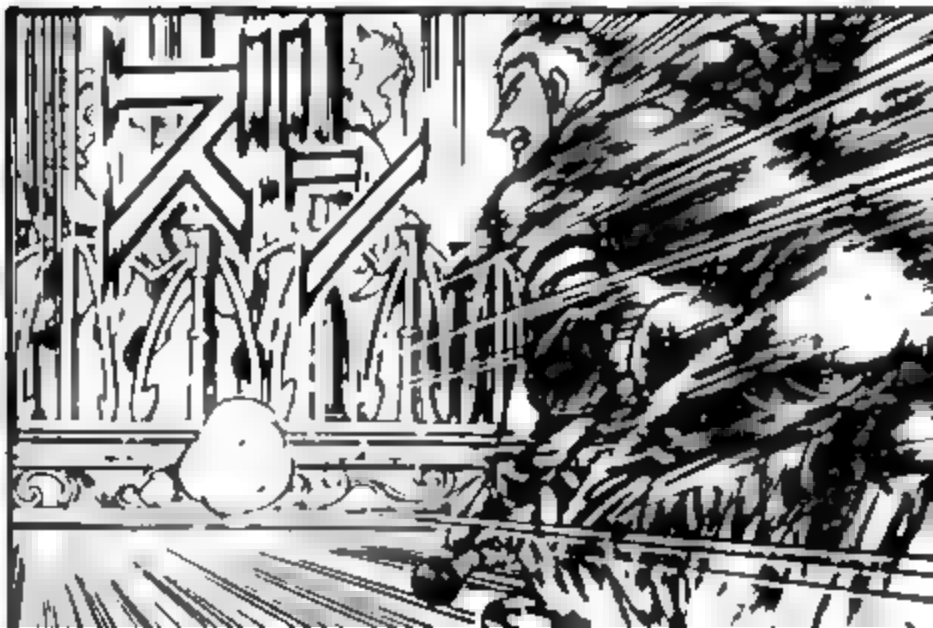
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE OUR HERO ...

IT'S... SOME KIND OF DOLL...
THE... THE MERRY-GO-ROUND ...

H...
HI...
ROUND
ROUND
MERRY-GO-ROUND OLLLL-SEEEEN!

BUT YOUR MOVEMENTS ARE TOO SLOW TO HAVE A CHANCE OF BEATING ME!
HA HA HA, SO YOU'RE A CAROUSEL! THAT DOES MAKE QUITE AN IMPACT!


HUP!

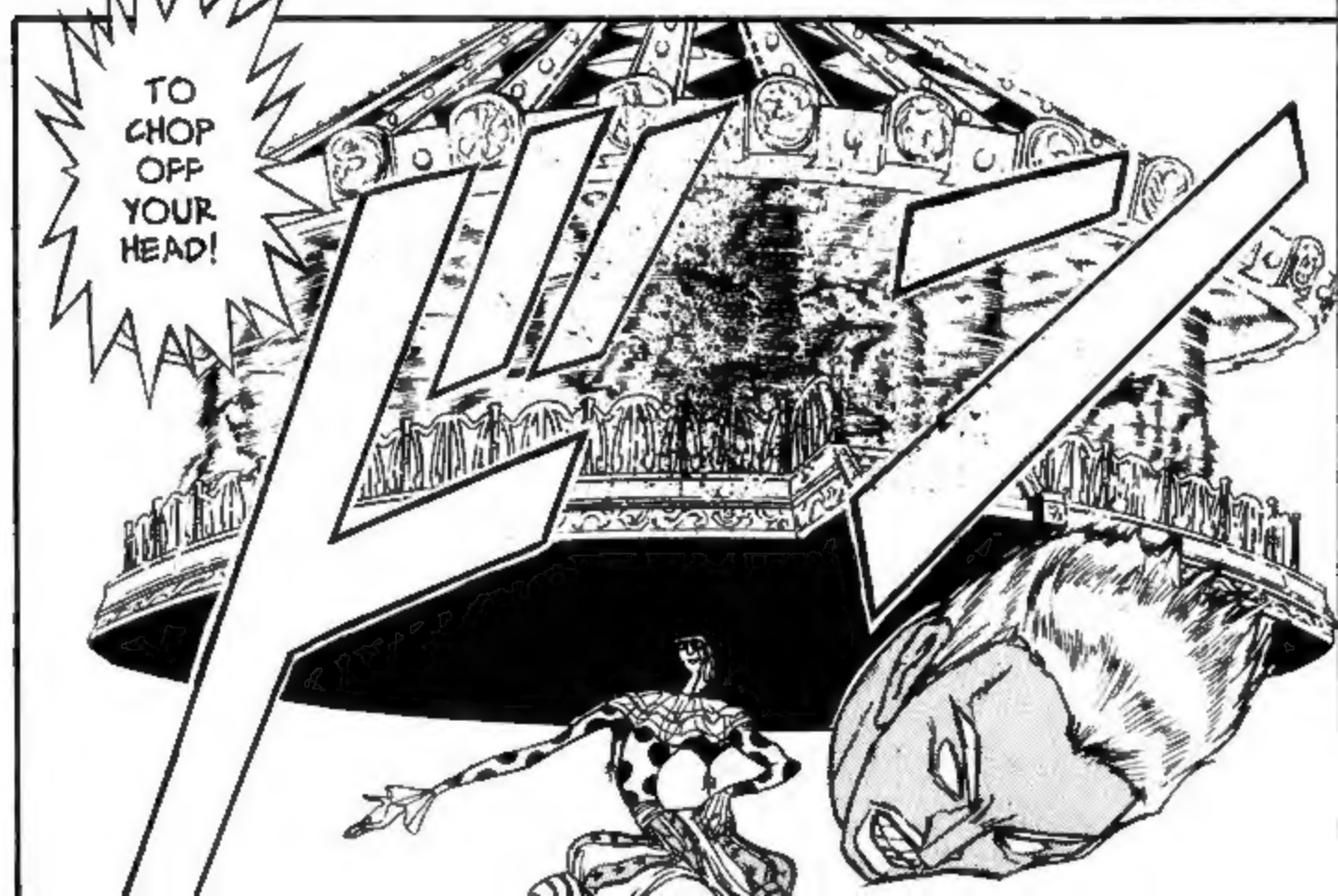


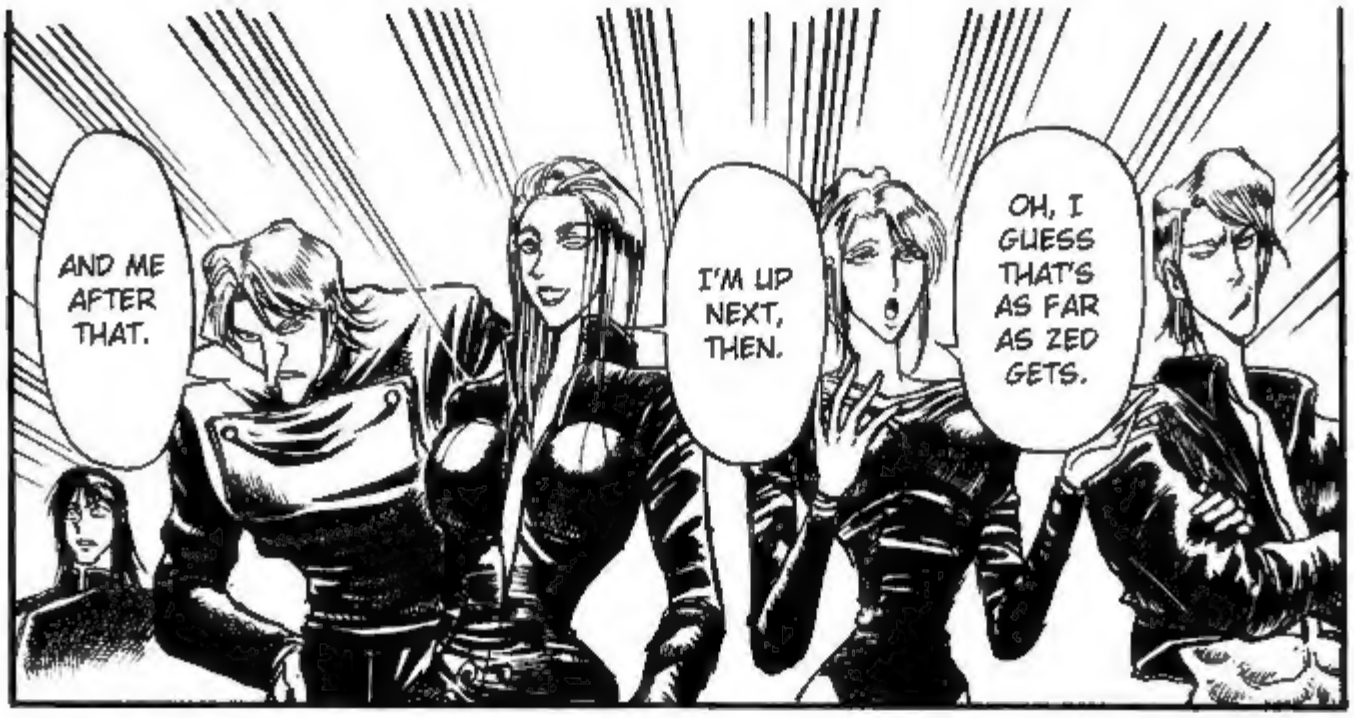
HMPH! THAT KIND OF CHILDISH TRICK WON'T ...
"YOU OWE ME FIVE FAR-THINGS," SAY THE BELLS OF ST. MARTIN'S ...
"ORANGES AND LEMONS," SAY THE BELLS OF ST. CLEMENS ...
!

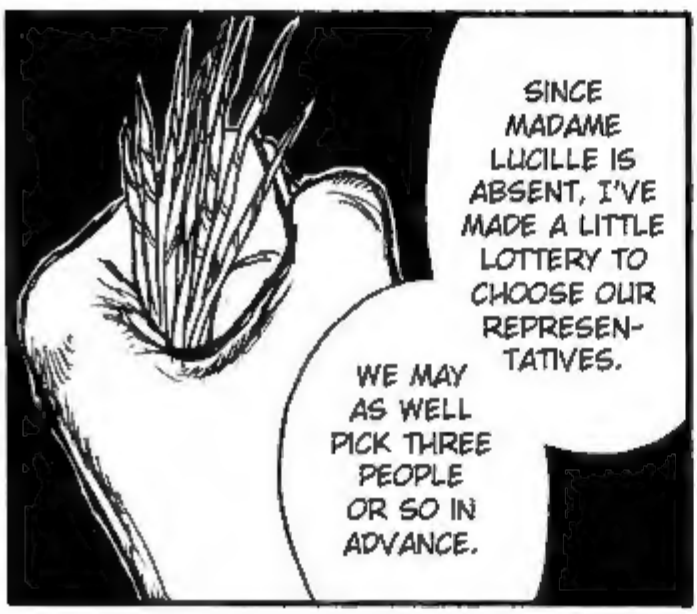
"WHEN WILL THAT BE?" SAY THE BELLS OF STEPNEY.
"WHEN I GROW RICH," SAY THE BELLS OF SHORE-DITCH
...SAY THE BELLS OF OLD BAILEY.
"WHEN WILL YOU PAY ME?"

AND HERE ...
TO LIGHT YOU TO BED!
HERE COMES A CANDLE...
"I DO NOT KNOW," SAYS THE GREAT BELL OF BOW.
DAMN ...!

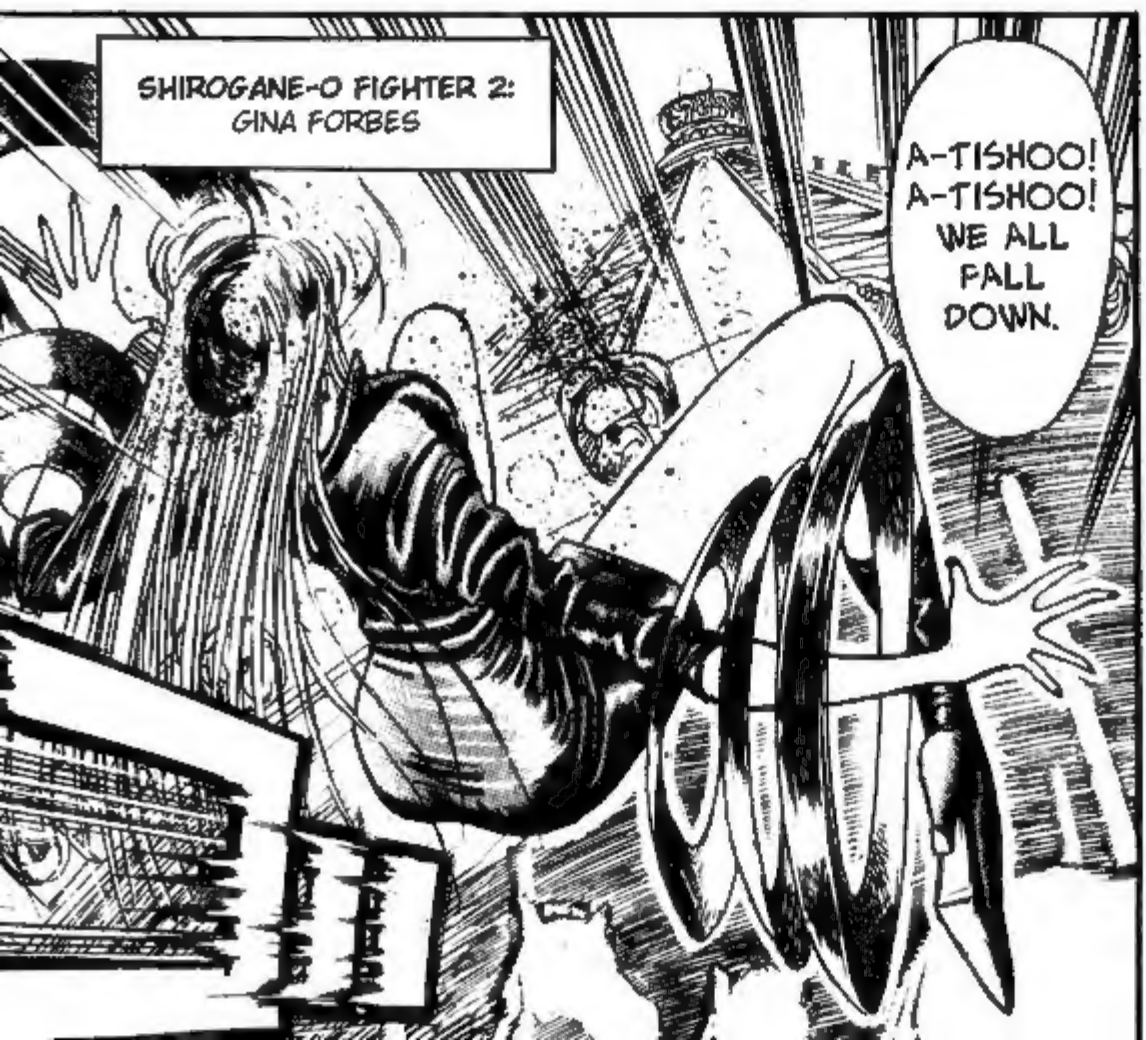
COMES A CHOPPER ...


TO CHOP OFF YOUR HEAD!


AND ME AFTER THAT.
I'M UP NEXT, THEN.
OH, I GUESS THAT'S AS FAR AS ZED GETS.


SINCE MADAME LUCILLE IS ABSENT, I'VE MADE A LITTLE LOTTERY TO CHOOSE OUR REPRESENTATIVES.
WE MAY AS WELL PICK THREE PEOPLE OR SO IN ADVANCE.

HUH ...?
HERE, YOU TAKE ONE.


SHIROGANE-O FIGHTER 2:
GINA FORBES
A-TISHOO! A-TISHOO! WE ALL FALL DOWN.

UH... BUT THEY'VE ONLY LOST ONE PERSON SO FAR, RIGHT...?

HERE, YOU TOO.
WHA ...
YOU SEE? OUR TURN WILL COME SOON.
HMM, SO IT'S DAHL AND ME? AND THEN THE LAST WILL BE...
APPAR-ENTLY NOT.
WAHAHAHAHA! I DON'T WANT TO GO TO ALL THAT TROUBLE! THERE'S NO PROBLEM WITH ME GOING, IS THERE?!

LOOKS LIKE...
THAT'S GONNA BE ME.

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

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Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.